In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as indicated.

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus for switching library managers, the apparatus comprising:

a communications module configured to receive a directive to transition library management functions from a first library manager to a second library manager, the communications module further configured to communicate with the first library manager, the second library manager, and a host computer.

a control module configured to direct the first library manager to reject data transaction commands while <u>allowing the first library manager to complete previously accepted data transaction commands and</u> maintaining <u>a</u>~~the~~ storage device in a state responsive to data transaction actions; also suspend the library management function of the first library manager; and activate the library management function of the second library manager.

2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a timing module, the timing module configured to receive a timeout directive, and to initiate a timeout period.

3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the control module is configure to suspend the library management function of the first library manager responsive to the completion of the timeout period.

4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first library manager is configure to store an accepted data transaction command.

5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the first library manager is configure to execute a previously accepted data transaction command.

6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the control module is configure to terminate the processing of the previously accepted data transaction command.

7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the control module is configure to transfer accepted data transaction commands from the first library manager to the second library manager.

8. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first library manager is configure to accept a specifiedselect data transaction command type.

9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the control module is configure to terminate the library manager transition.

10. (Currently amended) An apparatus for switching the library manager of a data library, the apparatus comprising:

    a storage device responsive to a first library manager and a second library manager, wherein the storage device retrieves and stores data; and

    a transition manager module configured to receive a directive for a library manager transition; command the first library manager to reject data transaction commands while allowing the first library manager to complete previously accepted data transaction commands; maintain the storage device responsive to data transaction commands; and command the second library manager to receive data transaction commands.

11. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the first library manager is further configured to accept a specifiedselect data transaction command type.

12. (Currently amended) An apparatus for switching library managers, the apparatus comprising:

    means for managing a data transaction command;

    means for completing a data transaction command;

    means for rejecting a data transaction command;

    means for maintaining the completing means responsive to data transaction commands;

    means for <u>directing a first managing means to reject data transaction commands while allowing the first managing means to complete previously accepted data transaction commands and</u>; and

    means for activating the library management functions of a second managing means.

13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 12, further comprising means for storing the data transaction command;

14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 12, further comprising means for executing the stored data transaction command.

15. (Currently amended) A system for switching library managers, the system comprising:

a first library manager configured to accept and execute a data transaction command;

a second library manager configured to accept and execute the data transaction command;

a storage device configured to receive the data transaction command from the first library manager and the second library manager; and

a transition manager module configured to receive a directive for a library manager transition; direct the first library manager to reject data transaction commands while allowing the first library manager to complete previously accepted data transaction commands and maintaining the storage device responsive to data transaction commands; suspend the library management function of the first library manager; and to activate the library management function of the second library manager.

16. (Currently amended) The system of claim 15, wherein the first library manager is further configured to accept a specifiedselect data transaction command type during a library manager transition.

17. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the transition manager module is configured to notify a host computer that the library manager transition is in process.

18. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the transition manager module is configured to suspend the library manager transition; to direct the first library manager to accept data transaction commands; and notify the host computer that the first library manager is accepting data transaction commands.

19. (Currently amended) A method for switching library managers, the method comprising:

rejecting a data transaction command;

maintaining a storage device responsive to the data transaction command;

reject~~suspend~~ing data transaction commands at~~the library management functions of~~ a first library manager while allowing the first library manager to complete previously accepted data transaction commands; and

activating the library management functions of a second library manager.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19, further comprising notifying a host computer that the library manager transition is in process.

21. (Original) The method of claim 19, further comprising informing a host computer that the library manager transition is complete.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Original) The method of claim 22, further comprising terminating execution of the previously accepted data transaction command.

24. (Currently amended) A computer readable storage medium comprising computer

    readable program code for switching library managers, the program code configured to:

    reject a data transaction command for access to a storage device, the storage device

configured to complete data transaction commands;

    maintain the storage device responsive to the data transaction command;

    reject~~suspend~~ data transaction commands at ~~the library management functions of~~ a

first library manager while allowing the first library manager to complete previously accepted

data transaction commands; and

    activate the library management functions of a second library manager.

25. (Original) The computer readable storage medium of claim 24, wherein the program

    code is further configured to notify a host computer that a library manager transition is in

    process.

26. (Original) The computer readable storage medium of claim 24, wherein the program

    code is further configured to inform the host computer that the library manager transition

    is complete.

27. (Currently amended) The computer readable storage medium of claim 24, wherein the

    program code is further configured to accept a specified~~select~~ data transaction command

    type.

28. (Original) The computer readable storage medium of claim 24, wherein the program

    code is further configured to store an accepted data transaction command.

29. (Canceled)

7

30. (Currently amended) The computer readable storage medium of claim [[30]]24, wherein the program code is further configured to terminate the execution of the accepted data transaction command.